

Virtual Intern Report  
September 8, 2016

### Legislation Tracking

**[New head of SEDESOL, Luis Enrique Miranda Nava, is tasked with National Strategy for Inclusion]**



- President Pena Nieto on Thursday announced that Luis Enrique Miranda Nava is the new head of the Ministry of Social Development (SEDESOL) and assumed responsibility for caring for 55.3 million people in poverty.
- National Strategy for Inclusion formally presented June 23, 2015 launched by Nava's predecessor, Jose Antonio Meade.

(U) As SEDESOL's new head, Nava's first assignment is coordinating the implementation of the National strategy for inclusion, which is a plan to combat poverty by bringing aid to people with different social needs as well as by focusing on education, health, housing, and food. The strategy aims to end the "educational backwardness" of 2.2 million people in school levels ranging from preschool to secondary levels. It also suggests 21.2 million Mexicans join Seguro Popular and Mexican Social Security Institute (IMSS) to receive and promote benefits such as health care, creation of formal jobs, and living standards.

Source 1:

<http://www.excelsior.com.mx/nacional/2016/09/07/1115578>

**[Mexico Court Lets Re-education For Abortions Stand]**

- The Mexican Supreme Court declined to hear a case from Veracruz state that would have opened a debate for decriminalizing abortion throughout Mexico. The Veracruz law calls for unspecified "educational measures" for women who abort.

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- Eighteen of Mexico's 32 states have passed so-called right to life measures in response to a 2008 law legalizing abortion in Mexico City.
- The legislation ranges from constitutional changes that outline principles on protecting right-to-life from inception to laws in states that call for unspecified "educational measures" for women who abort.

(U) This past Wednesday, lawyer's attempted to use the case of a recent victim, Patricia Mendez, to get the right-to-life laws overturned in her state of Vera Cruz, which would serve to open the debate for decriminalizing abortion throughout Mexico. However, the Mexican Supreme Court declined to hear the case and returned it the Vera Cruz court. The decision served to highlight the court's refusal to intervene in the abortion debate. Human Rights activists, especially women are displeased as they feel that women who abort are being treated as social deviants.

Source 3

[www.washingtonpost.com/world/the\\_americas/mexico-supreme-court-gets-case-on-re-education-for-abortions/2016/09/07/80af6396-74b0-11e6-9781-49e591781754\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/the_americas/mexico-supreme-court-gets-case-on-re-education-for-abortions/2016/09/07/80af6396-74b0-11e6-9781-49e591781754_story.html)

### **[Mexican Supreme Court Overturns State Anti-Corruption Laws]**

- (U) On Monday, Mexican Supreme Court overturned two states' (Vera Cruz and Chihuahua) anti-corruption laws. The governors, Javier Duarte and Cesar Duarte, run the states respectively.
- The courts decision was based on the dates of the new legislations created by the states a month before the establishment of the National Anti-Corruption System general laws, which was considered a requirement before states would be able to bring in their own legislation.
- The governors violated the constitution by legislating before time. The states' legislating was seen as "Hasty action" done by the local congresses of these states to pass legislation before the entry of the forced general laws of the National Anti-corruption system.
- Their state anti-corruption laws would have allowed departing governors the opportunity to choose the prosecutors in charge of investigating corruption allegations against them to successfully "bulletproof" them.
- The Attorney General filed a case with the Supreme Court to stop the laws and they were stopped by a unanimous decision by the court.
- Supreme Court of Justice of the Nation, Jose Ramon Cossio Diaz, said, "local congresses have no power to establish (local rules without knowing

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legislation at the national level.)” The act performed by the state was an “unconstitutional act.”

Sources 2

<http://www.excelsior.com.mx/nacional/2016/09/06/1115255>

<http://mexiconewsdaily.com/news/court-rules-against-states-legislation/>